ABSTRACT OF DISCLOSURE

The present invention provides a data encryption method and apparatus, in which an encryption algorithm module combination is selected from among a plurality of encryption algorithm module combinations predetermined by the user in cooperation with data attribute matching and a dynamic selection mechanism to perform encryption processing of data. The encryption of data through such alternate use of different encryption algorithm module combinations not only enhances the complexity in decryption of the data, the processing speed is not sacrificed due to use of relatively complicated encryption algorithms to ensure security. Furthermore, in the data decryption method and apparatus according to the present invention, data is decrypted using decryption algorithm module combinations that are dynamically switched according to decryption information appended to the ciphertext.